



STATE OF IOWA

CHESTER J. CULVER, GOVERNOR
PATTY JUDGE, LT. GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
RICHARD A. LEOPOLD, DIRECTOR

February 12, 2007

RE: 25 Criteria Project

Dear TAC Members,

First, we want to thank you all for traveling through the weather and participating at 1/12/07 TAC meeting. We are currently finishing work on a TAC web page where minutes, research papers, presentations, TAC bios, work element reports and the like will be posted for this and future TACs. We are also actively compiling information to generate a fiscal impact statement which will also be posted once available.

There has been a recent change in the department's approach regarding this criteria rule making effort. In short, the department has decided to move forward with 304a values for all of the 25 criteria. EPA has consistently stated that if we adopt 304a criteria for these 25 parameters the currently debated rule package submittal will be approved in its entirety.

Director Leopold believes it is more important in this case to receive approval from EPA on the current WQS submittal so we can move forward with the WQS revisions and implementation time lines. The director does not agree or disagree with our science in establishing criteria; he simply does not want to delay approval of the WQS submittal further by engaging in a scientific debate with EPA and/or others over the 25 criteria.

Adam Schnieders will be in touch with you soon about our next steps for the 25 criteria rule package. I appreciate your involvement with the TAC and hope that you will continue to assist us with setting scientifically defensible criteria for future standards revisions. TDS and chloride is our next project and we would like your help once again on establishing criteria based on sound science. We are finalizing our plans for TDS and chloride and we will let you know when the TAC meeting is scheduled.

Thanks again for your continued assistance.

Chuck Corell, Chief
Water Quality Bureau